

REMARKS

The Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment indicates that a clean version of the amended claim is required.

Upon inspection of the Preliminary Amendment filed on January 11, 2002, a clean version of the amended claim 3 is included on page 6, while a marked-up version is included on page 16 of the Preliminary Amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Preliminary Amendment is compliant. A courtesy copy of the Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.

An early action on the merits is respectfully solicited. If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.



PATENT
Serial No. 10/043,517
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of July 7, 2004

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments
to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 27, 2004

Enclosure: Copy of Preliminary Amendment filed on January 11, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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By *Matali J. Manza*
(Signature)